

# Bosox may ban beer from clubhouse use

BOSTON (AP) — Hit the winning home run on a hot night, head back to the clubhouse to celebrate and pop the top on a cold bottle .... of mineral water?

Soon, Boston manager Butch Hobson plans to meet with his players to discuss a possible ban on beer in the clubhouse and on airline flights. The Red Sox might become the latest team to make such a move for health and other reasons.

"It doesn't bother me, either way. If it happens, it's good," first baseman Mo Vaughn said. "But baseball players have been drinking beer as long as the game's been played, so it's an issue that can go either way."

Besides, it won't stop players from drinking.

"I'll do whatever they say," designated hitter Ivan Calderon said. "If they don't want to have beer in the clubhouse, that's OK. Then I'll just wait 'til we get back to the hotel."

For the last few years, the look of what major leaguers eat and drink in the locker room has been changing. Gone are the old days when the typical postgame meal was a big plate of fried chicken and a couple of beers. Now, the spreads usually feature fruits and juices. Even sodas are becoming scarce in refrigerators.

Other items are showing up less and less, too, as baseball cleans up its act. Pouches of chewing tobacco are not lying around the locker room and neither are the stacks of girlie magazines that used to be seen.

The Los Angeles Dodgers were among the first teams to ban beer in the clubhouse and on flights.

"We definitely have been a little more concerned about the total health of our athletes," assistant trainer Charlie Strasser said. "If a player wants to have a drink, that's their prerogative. But to give them something that's not healthy for them, that goes against what we're trying to do."

"Alcohol dehydrates you, and that's not good," he said. "It's just the total package. We push water and Gatorade on our players."

Dodgers pitcher Orel Hershisier said he thought the beer ban coincided with increased lawsuits against those who provide alcohol, be it a bar or a ballclub.

"I doubt that it's a high moral issue," Hershisier said.

The Cleveland Indians do not serve alcohol on their flights, but do provide beer in the locker room during the regular season.

"On the team side, they're trying to protect against any incidents coming away from the ballpark," Indians pitcher Ted Power said. "On the player side,

you can say that grown men can do what they want. The problem is that sometimes there aren't too many grown men on a team."

There was no beer in the clubhouse at Chain O' Lakes Park after Cleveland's exhibition game Monday night, and several players noticed.

"Hey, why isn't there any beer in here?" several Indians could be heard clamoring.

A few years ago, the Chicago White Sox banned beer. That prohibition lasted only one season.

"I don't have any problems with the way it is now, as long as it doesn't get excessive and the alcohol doesn't cause any fights or incidents," outfielder Tim Raines said. "But it's a tough issue, and everyone is not going to agree on it."

## WOMEN

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optimistic after a season opening 58-56 win over No. 13 Southwest Missouri State and narrow defeats against two ranked teams, Vanderbilt and DePaul. The Ducks won six out of their first eight games before the walls caved in.

Oregon lost their final non-conference game 91-78 against Boise State to begin an 11-game losing streak that saw them go more than one month without a victory. The Ducks opened the Pacific-10 Conference season 0-10, and were in jeopardy of becoming the first team in history not to win a Pac-10 game before defeating UCLA 89-78 at McArthur Court.

The Ducks looked to end the season on a good note by winning three out of five games before last Friday's loss to Oregon State 66-56. Oregon head coach Elwin Heiny said he hopes to end the forgettable 1992-93 season with wins over two possible NCAA tournament teams.

"It's been a long season," Heiny said. "But we would like to go out on a positive note and try to win these games this week. I hope we can go down there with some pride and give Stanford and Cal some tough games."

The Ducks meet No. 8 Stanford (13-3) on Thursday, and will be looking to avenge a 91-72 defeat against the Cardinal earlier this season. The defending national champions are led by last years Pac-10 Player of the Year Val Whiting, who is averaging 18.6 points and nine rebounds per game.

California (9-7) is tied for fourth in the Pac-10 and is hoping to be invited to the NCAA tournament for the third time in four seasons. The Golden Bears are ranked 31st in the latest poll but have been inconsistent by beating Stanford while losing to three teams in the second division of the Pac-10.

Oregon will not have center Sara Wilson for the games due to a knee injury suffered in practice on Tuesday. She was averaging 12.2 points and 6.9 rebounds per game. Wilson is not expected to go through knee surgery.

With Wilson out of the lineup, forward Debbie Sporcich will have to step up her play inside. Sporcich leads the team with 14.9 points and is second in the conference with a 60.2 shooting percentage. Sporcich is in reach of assistant coach Stefanie Kasperski's school record 60.6 shooting percentage.

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